

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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COUNTRY	Korea	REPORT NO.	[REDACTED]
SUBJECT	Power Plants in North Korea	DATE DISTR.	19 February 1953
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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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SOURCE:

[REDACTED]

Repair of Changjin Hydroelectric Power Plant

1. On 20 July 1952, 5,000 laborers from the fertilizer manufacturing plant at Hungnam¹ were transferred to the hydroelectric power plant at Changjin (N 40-23, E 127-15) (CV-5171) to repair the damage inflicted by the United Nations air strike of late June. The laborers who moved to Changjin were accompanied by their families.

Repair of T'ongch'ŏn Power Plant

2. In August 1952, the equipment at the Number 4 T'ongch'ŏn (N 38-54, E 127-54) (DU-0506) Power Plant at DT-010978, which had been bombed out in late July, had been repaired. The repair work was begun in early August and completed on 16 August. The plant was supplying power to the areas around Kosong (N 38-40, E 128-19) (DT-4180) and Onjong-ni (N 38-41, E 128-11) (DT-2982).

Power Distribution Bureau, South P'yongan Province

3. On 2 September 1952, the office of the Power Distribution Bureau of South P'yongan Province was at Yul-li (N 39-00, E 125-47) (YD-4120). This bureau, which was subordinate to the Electricity Department of the North Korean Ministry of Industry, was supplying power to South P'yongan and Ewangahe Provinces. The power plant, which was built in mid-April 1952, was in four underground shelters on the 30-meter hill at YD-416205. Each of the caves was 7 meters high, 10 meters long, and 10 meters wide. Power poles supported the roofs of the caves,

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which were covered with dirt, making identification from the air difficult.

4. Each of two of the caves contained a 65-ton 50,000-kilowatt transformer. In addition, each had a D.C.B. (sic) distribution board. This station was receiving 154,000 volts of electricity through the Choch'on station from the Sup'ung Dam power complex, and was distributing 66,000 volts to Sungho-ri (N 38-59, E 125-58) (YD-5719), Maenjung-ni (N 39-39, E 125-36) (YD-2392), Anju (N 39-37, E 125-40) (YD-2988), Sinch'on (N 38-21, E 125-29) (YC-1747), Songch'on (N 39-15, E 126-13) (BU-6048), Yangdok (N 39-13, E 126-38) (BU-9643), and Chaeryong (N 38-24, E 125-37) (YC-2853).² The power was distributed on a priority basis to government factories, government offices, radio stations, and social organizations.

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Comments

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1. According to [REDACTED], the fertilizer plant at Hungnam was destroyed by United Nations bombing prior to June 1952. Other sources have reported that the workers at this plant have been sent to meet manpower shortages on other projects.
2. It is not clear whether the source means that each of the seven tributaries was receiving 66,000 volts, or that each was receiving approximately 9,000 volts, although the former is more probable.

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